Over crowded AIIMS and Ram Manohar Lohia hospitals

†1695. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia hospital and other hospitals situated at New Delhi, the number of patients coming from different parts of the country is increasing day-by-day continuously resulting in unnecessary delay in proper treatment of the patients; and

(b) if so, the details of permanent arrangement and alternative arrangement the Government propose to tackle this humane problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) It is a fact that the number of patients attending All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr. RML Hospital and other hospitals in Delhi is gradually increasing in the last few years. However, within the constraints of space and finance in these hospitals, adequate medical care is being provided to all. These hospitals provide tertiary care facilities to a large section of patients not only from Delhi but also from adjoining States and other parts of the country.

Fluorosis Disease

1696. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any nation-wide programme to control 'Fluorosis' disease in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government is examining the proposal to formulate a national programme to control fluorosis in the country.

Marking of tar and nicotine level on cigarette packs

1697. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently decided to make it mandatory

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for tobacco product makers to specify the level of 'tar' and 'nicotine' content on cigarette packs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) in what way the proposed display of harmful contents/ ingredients on the packs would dissuade cigarette smokers from smoking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government has enacted "The Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and regulation of trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003" on 18th May 2003 which *inter-alia* contains provision for mandatory indication of levels of tar and nicotine contents alongwith the maximum permissible limits on the packs of cigarettes and other tobacco products. The provision will come into force once the rules are finalized and Government notifies the date. The objective of this provision is to inform the consumers about the harmful contents of tobacco and to discourage them from using tobacco products.

Ayurvedic degree college, Chhattisgarh

†1698. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to strengthen the Ayurvedic degree college in Chhattisgarh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Development of Institutions of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy, financial assistance has been given to strengthen the educational infrastructure in Chhattisgarh as follows:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of the college	Amount given	Purpose	Year of assistance
N.P.A. Govt. Ay. College, Raipur	42.00	To strengthen edu. infrastructure	2003-04
Govt. Ay. College, Raipur	03.83	To strengthen edu. infrastructure	2003-04
N.P.A. Govt. Ay. College, Raipur	10.00	To strengthen edu. infrastructure	2003-04
N.P.A. Govt. Ay. College, Raipur	90.00	To strengthen edu. infrastructure	2004-05

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.